



Press release:

WDL Aviation welcomed as new BARIG member

- **With immediate effect, Cologne Zeitfracht subsidiary WDL Aviation becomes member of international airline association BARIG**

Frankfurt, 27th March 2018. WDL Aviation has joined the Board of Airline Representatives in Germany (BARIG) as its newest member. The association based at the airport in Frankfurt represents the interests of around 100 national and international airlines from the passenger, cargo and tourism sectors. The German BAR is thus the worldwide largest association of its kind.

WDL Aviation exists since 1974, has its head office at the airport Cologne/Bonn and operates a Europe-wide fleet of aircraft type British Aerospace Bae-146 for passenger and air cargo traffic. The aircraft are in wet lease operation for renowned European airlines such as Air France and Easyjet. Since October 2017, WDL Aviation is part of the Zeitfracht group based in Berlin. Zeitfracht and BARIG are currently in talks regarding an enhanced cooperation with the association and its member airlines in air cargo and logistics matters.

“We are happy to welcome aboard WDL Aviation as part of the Zeitfracht group,” states BARIG Secretary General Michael Hoppe. “Our association purposefully advocates the interests of our member airlines from the passenger, cargo and tourism sectors and thus promotes a sustainable strengthening and effective development of the air traffic location Germany. Among other aspects, this goal incorporates the abolition of the air traffic tax or security. BARIG takes a targeted approach to further major and future-oriented topics. For example, towards the German government regarding the prevention of terror and hazards which is an overall national task and should therefore be financed largely by the state in the future.”

Dr. Wolfram Simon, managing director of the Zeitfracht group explains, “Our strategic aim is to unify passenger air travel with cargo traffic and establish a European express network for lightweight packages. Our newly acquired BARIG membership underlines this plan and allows for an intensification of our cooperation with German and international airlines of BARIG. I am very much looking forward to the upcoming work in BARIG’s international environment.”

BARIG e.V. (Board of Airline Representatives in Germany) represents the interests of around 100 national and international airlines in scheduled, charter, low cost and air cargo business. Since the foundation in 1951 the airline association works for the improvement of frame conditions in the aviation industry in Germany and is the key industry contact for politics, authorities, industry and media. Worldwide the BARIG member airlines transport around 1.8 billion passengers and more than 25 million tons of air cargo to over 1,500 destinations. Every year approximately 225 million passengers are travelling to and from Germany with BARIG airlines to more than 280 international destinations. The BARIG airlines have over 105,000 employees in Germany. The overall aviation industry secures 823,000 workplaces and therefore is a major factor of the German economy. www.BARIG.aero